

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CCMS: JANUARY 25-26 CCMS COORDINATORS' MEETING

REF: (A) 77 USNATO 12389, (B) USNATO 219

MISSION MAY WISH TO DRAW ON MATERIAL BELOW IN DISCUSSING
WITH IS AND OTHER NATIONAL DELEGATIONS US EXPECTATIONS FOR
JANUARY 25-26 COORDINATORS' MEETING.

1. THE US HOPES SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING THE NATURE
OF THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL(S), SPECIFICALLY THAT ON SEISMOLOGY,
WILL BE AVAILABLE IN ORDER TO MAKE IT FEASIBLE FOR PRE-
PLENARY SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW TO OCCUR IN CAPITALS. US
BELIEVES ITALIAN PROPOSAL(S) MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AS
POSSIBLE SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA ITEMS AT MARCH PLENARY AND WOULD
LIKE TO LEAVE JANUARY MEETING WITH CONCRETE IDEAS ABOUT
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WHAT ITALIANS PROPOSE.

2. THE US HOPES TO HAVE AT THE JANUARY MEETING A LIST OF
PROJECTS IN WHICH THERE IS TENTATIVE US INTEREST FOR FUTURE
CCMS PILOT STUDIES. IN A FEW AREAS WE MIGHT WISH TO TAKE THE
LEAD COUNTRY ROLE. IN OTHER AREAS WE WOULD BE SUPPORTIVE
OF OTHER MEMBERS' INITIATIVES. US PLANS TO SEND SEPTTEL TO

MISSION AND CAPITALS IDENTIFYING SOME SUCH AREAS OF

POTENTIAL INTEREST PRIOR TO MEETING. (FYI: WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE PROPORTION OF NON-US LED PROJECTS INCREASED AMONG NEW PROJECTS APPROVED BY CCMS. END FYI.)

3. US HOPES OTHER COORDINATORS WILL ALSO BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS AREAS IN WHICH THEIR GOVERNMENTS WOULD LIKE TO SEE NEW PILOT STUDIES AND PARTICULARLY THOSE IN WHICH THEY WOULD TAKE THE LEAD.

4. IN ADDITION TO THE REVIEW OF POSSIBLE NEW PROJECT AREAS AND THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL(S), WE EXPECT THAT THE MEETING WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE BROADER QUESTION OF HOW CCMS MIGHT BE MADE MORE EFFECTIVE IN MEETING THE PRIORITIES OF MEMBER NATIONS. THE US CONTINUES TO BE BASICALLY PLEASED WITH CCMS AND ITS ACTIVITIES, AND BELIEVES THAT THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE REMAIN VALID. IN OUR VIEW, CCMS FULFILLS A TWO-FOLD FUNCTION: SERVING AS A SYSTEMATIC WAY OF DEVELOPING MULTILATERAL RESEARCH THROUGH PILOT STUDIES AND AS A USEFUL CHANNEL FOR INFORMAL DISCUSSION BY ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING ALLIED VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. THE US GENERALLY FAVORS PROPOSED CHANGES IN PLENARY
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FORMAT (REF B). US COORDINATOR PAUL WARD, WHO WILL ATTEND THE JANUARY 25-26 MEETING, WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THIS IN MORE DETAIL.

6. THE US VIEWS THE AD HOC JANUARY MEETING AS AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH NO DECISIONS BEING TAKEN. WE AGREE WITH THE SUGGESTION THAT THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF BE PREPARED TO SUMMARIZE THE VARIOUS VIEWS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY THE MARCH PLENARY. PERHAPS THE COORDINATORS CAN CONSIDER WHICH ISSUES SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE PLENARY AND HOW.

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